United Nations A/58/334

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 August 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Item 119 (c) of the provisional agenda*
Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to submit to the members of the General Assembly the following note regarding the report of the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan.

* * *

1. Pursuant to its resolution 57/234, the General Assembly decided to keep the situation of human rights in Afghanistan under consideration at its fifty-eighth session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

2. In its resolution 2003/77 approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2003/257, the Commission on Human Rights requested an independent expert to be appointed by the Secretary-General for Afghanistan, tasked with developing a programme of advisory services to ensure the full respect and protection of human rights and the promotion of the rule of law, and with seeking and receiving information about and reporting on the human rights situation in Afghanistan. This independent expert was in turn requested to provide a report on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and on the achievements of the technical assistance in the field of human rights to the General Assembly. By mid-August 2003, the independent expert had yet to be appointed, and consequently, he/she will likely limit him/herself to an oral presentation.

* A/58/150.

03-49318 (E) 220903